



• Anjelica Huston and her "ex", superstar Jack Nicholson.

Bewitching

'I'm pleased to say I feel very little about Jack now. I didn't have to put a spell on Robert — that was the magic of it all'

ANJELICA HUSTON admits she's more like some of her witch characters — including her latest witch, Morticia in *The Addams Family* — than we know.

"I can't say that I'm a practising witch or anything like that, but I've been known to light a blue candle," she tells TV WEEK.

Anjelica says lighting a blue candle is common practice among witches to win the heart of a man.

"You get a blue candle and you write the name of the one whose heart you want to conquer in the middle and, when it burns all the way down to the bottom, it works! They phone you and then it's up to you how far you take it from there," she says.

While Anjelica refuses to reveal the object of her desires, it is unlikely to be Jack Nicholson, with whom she had a very public 17-year relationship.

That affair ended two years ago when Anjelica discovered another of his girlfriends, Rebecca Broussard, was pregnant with his child. Broussard, 28, had a daugh-

ter, Lorraine, now 18 months, and will give birth to 54-year-old Nicholson's second child in February.

"It was a terrible shock," Anjelica admits, "but I'm pleased to say I feel very little about Jack now."

That's partly due to Anjelica's new love, Los Angeles sculptor Robert Graham, to whom she recently announced her engagement after the pair holidayed in Ireland together in September.

"I didn't have to put a spell on Robert — that was the magic of it all," she says. "You have to be careful about spells because they are only spells, and when people do things of their own volition, it's infinitely better."

Although 40-year-old Anjelica has never been married, she is not scared to take the plunge.

"Strangely enough, marrying Robert doesn't feel scary at all,"

she says. "Marriage will be a welcome change at this point in my life and I haven't been fearful yet, but I probably will be right before the wedding!"

After spending most of her career in the shadows of the two famous men in her life — her late father, the director John Huston, and former boyfriend Nicholson — Anjelica is enjoying this phase of freedom in her life.

"I think Jack would have liked to have been encouraging of my career a little bit more than he was," she says. "But he has a big life and he gets a lot of attention and, in a way, he needs a certain simplicity from the person he's with and that they don't have too much going on outside, as I do."

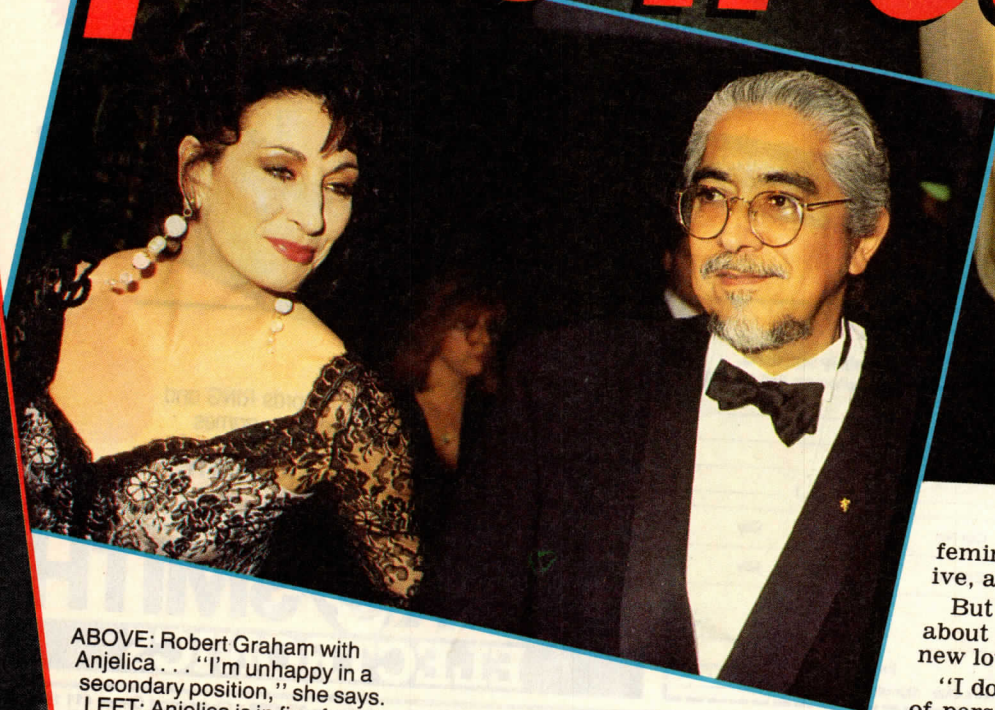
"I'm unhappy in a secondary position. I like to be equal with the



person I'm with and sometimes in Hollywood it would get a little depressing. When you've been going to someone's house for 12 years and then you see them alone on the street and the only thing they have to ask you is, 'How's Jack?' ... I found that irritating.

"It's difficult when you're with someone who's getting a tremendous amount of attention and you're not. I guess I'm too spoiled to be able to take that all that well. It was hard when I wanted to be working and when I was with Jack. He would get

Anjelica spells it out!



ABOVE: Robert Graham with Anjelica ... "I'm unhappy in a secondary position," she says.
LEFT: Anjelica is in fine form for her latest "witch" role in The Addams Family movie.

five million calls about work, or would be complaining about the 20 scripts he had to read, and I couldn't get to see anybody!

"Women feel that in order to be

feminine they can't be aggressive, and it's a fine line."

But Anjelica is not worried about crossing that line with her new love.

"I don't think Robert is the sort of person who has disrespect for what I do," she says, "and I don't think he would prevent me from doing anything I want to do."

Anjelica's career began to pick

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up momentum in 1985, when she won an Oscar as Best Supporting Actress in Prizzi's Honor, directed by her father (who died in 1987) and co-starring Nicholson. She has since played some of the best "tough women" roles in Hollywood — earning two more Oscar nominations for *Enemies: A Love Story* and *The Grifters* — as well as playing for laughs in *The Witches* and now *The Addams Family*.

"I see other actresses my age having children ... it hasn't hurt their careers. Meryl sure churns them out"

Anjelica sheepishly admits her witch roles make her happiest.

"The first witch I ever played anywhere was probably when I was six years old in the hall of my father's house in Ireland," she recalls.

"Myself and two other little girls played the three witches in a Scottish play and I had the fewest lines because I was the youngest. And I also had the heaviest outfit, which was a huge, black blanket, and I became terribly hot and forget the words 'toad under a cold stone', and removed myself and went and hid behind a curtain and wept while my brother was pouring baboon's blood on stage and running around the house screaming, 'Where is she? I'll kill her when I find her!'"

"I spent the rest of the night weeping in my mother's lap," she adds with a smile, "so maybe my propensity for playing witches stems from there, when I discovered that witches are witches because they're in torture!"

Ironically, Anjelica confesses to being terrified of witches as a child.

"We had a nanny, early on, and her name was Kitty and she looked exactly like Charles Addams' Granny in the cartoons of The



Addams Family," she says.

"She had false teeth and would take them out and gloss over her lips and we'd get into a dark corridor and she'd light a flashlight under her chin and we would run screaming while she'd crawl around."

"I was terrified of witches but we'd make her do it so we could scream and scream and scream."

"It was one of those things that

● Anjelica Huston in *The Witches* ... witch roles make her happiest.

children do to terrify themselves because they love the thrill of it."

In *The Addams Family*, Anjelica brings to life one of the kookiest witches on the big screen. In the movie, based loosely on hundreds of Charles Addams' cartoons of *The Addams Family*, Morticia and Gomez (Raul Julia) welcome Uncle Fester (Christopher Lloyd) back into the family after his sudden return.

But questions soon arise as to Uncle Fester's real identity and whether he's just trying to get his hands on the Addams' fortune, buried in their mansion.

"It was a fun movie, although I spent a lot of time corseted and wearing heavy wigs and make-up, so the waiting around was difficult," Anjelica says.

Anjelica confesses she's anxious to play a new role — as a mother.

"I see other actresses my age having children and they're portable and it hasn't hurt their careers," she says. "Meryl sure churns them out, doesn't she, and look where she is."

"I figure I could try out at least one!" she adds with a chuckle.

From Jenny Cooney in Los Angeles

